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POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE HILL TRACTS,

NORTHERN ARAKAN,

1871-72.

RANGOON:
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1872.

RESOLUTION

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE HILL TRACTS,

OF

NORTHERN ARAKAN.

FOR 1871-72.

READ Administration Report of the Hill Tracts, of Northern Arakan, for 1871-72.

RESOLUTION.—The Administration Report of the Arakan Hill Tracts for 1871-72 is chiefly valuable from the fact, that it is the first which has been submitted to Government since the introduction of the new system of administration, into the recently formed Hill Tracts district, which was suggested by the Chief Commissioner, in the letter from this office of the 2nd June 1871 and sanctioned by the Government of India, on the 10th July following. Under this system a definite line of demarcation has been drawn between territory under our direct administration, and that which we do not at present desire to bring under our immediate control, and which is therefore left in the hands of the Chiefs. With these Chiefs it is the duty of the Superintendent to cultivate and maintain friendly relations, influencing them so far as he can, but not endeavouring to coerce them, or interfere with them, or on the other hand doing anything which will have the effect of making us responsible for their protection from other tribes. The administration of the Hill Tracts during the past year has been very satisfactory, and Captain Hughes the first Superintendent

under the new system, has proved himself to be an efficient and energetic officer.

2. So far as it is possible to judge by the results of a single year, nothing could have been more successful than the new system of administration introduced into the Hills. The raids into the Arakan Hills were one of the great difficulties of this Administration in past years, and it was found impossible to protect our villages, or to exercise any control over the marauding tribes by whom they were perpetually laid waste. During the year under review there was only one raid on a village within the boundary of the new district. The Police received early notice of the outrage, and following the marauders came up with them, and made them abandon the plunder and captives, inflicting severe loss upon them. The Shendoos made nothing by this inroad. Two other attempts at raiding were made, but in both cases the activity of the Police made the war party retreat across the frontier, before they could do any mischief.

3. The Chief Commissioner regrets to find that Captain Hughes has introduced much matter into his report, which ought to have been omitted. He should in future avoid bringing forward fresh schemes and proposals in an annual report; and he should still more carefully avoid re-introducing suggestions which have already been before the Chief Commissioner and been disposed of. All recommendations regarding new measures should be submitted in separate communications, and not in a printed report on past administration.

4. The Chief Commissioner is glad to observe that good order and security to property are gradually being introduced into the Hill Tracts, and will naturally be followed by a development of the agricultural industry of the people. Slavery is dying out, though it would appear from para. 70 that the institution has not altogether ceased to exist. The defendants in a Session case, who were charged with murder, are said to have sold two children to pay

the pleader's fee. It is some satisfaction to know that orders were issued, that the children should be restored to their relatives ; but the Chief Commissioner is desirous of knowing whether these orders were duly carried out, and why judicial proceedings were not taken against the offenders, as suggested by the Commissioner of Arakan.

5. As regards the proposition in paras. 27 to 29 for employing another European officer on the Hills, the Chief Commissioner entirely concurs with Colonel Stevenson that it is one which is not necessary and cannot be complied with.

6. The Shendoo raid noticed in para. 34, has been already brought so prominently before the Government of India, that it calls for no further observation, and the attempts at other raids seem to demand no special comment beyond that their ill success is owing to the activity of the Police. The Chief Commissioner is not disposed to entertain the recommendation of Captain Hughes in paras. 36 and 37, regarding the employment of disciplined troops for Dalekmay during the next dry season. The repulse of the Shendoos by thirty Policemen during the last cold weather, sufficiently proves that the powers of the Hill Tribes beyond our frontier, have been greatly exaggerated ; whilst the temporary pressure on the tribes in consequence of the presence of a column operating against the Looshais, has now been removed.

7. The Chief Commissioner observes that out of two hundred captives supposed to have been taken captive from our territory during the last eight years, fifteen have been recovered during the past year. It seems to be a mere guess however that that number of persons has actually been carried away. He trusts that the increase of friendly relations with the tribes beyond our frontier may lead to still more successful results in this direction.

8. The efforts to improve the supply of cotton and tobacco are likely to have a good effect in weaning

the hill tribes from their wars and feuds and engaging them in more profitable pursuits; whilst they will promote commercial intercourse and improve the relations with the tribes beyond the frontier. The Hill Tracts are singularly well situated in respect of water carriage. The Chief Commissioner has lately visited the first station of the district in a Steamer drawing 8½ feet of water, and this same river goes up to the most advanced post of the district. Arrangements are being made to supply the Superintendent with good cotton and tobacco seed.

9. The revenue arrangements are satisfactory, but the amount of revenue is of course insignificant. The amount of collections from the Hill Tracts is a small matter in comparison with the work of preventing raids, suppressing slavery, and conciliating the petty chiefs on the border. Captain Hughes' proposals for levying indirect taxes—apparently inland customs duties—are entirely out of the question. The one great means of civilizing these people is by encouraging trade, and the best means of making the trans-frontier tribes amendable to our influence is by rendering them dependent on us for the supply of the necessaries of life, especially salt; and it is on this account that the Chief Commissioner strongly deprecates any attempt to control or interfere with the traffic in salt, except when the misconduct of a tribe renders it necessary to cut off their supply as a means of bringing them to reason, and this must only be done with the special sanction of Government in each case.

10. The new bazaar at Dalekmay seems to promise well, and the Chief Commissioner would not object to advances being made to the Superintendent for the purchase of agricultural implements, salt, and such cloth as the hill tribes chiefly desire to obtain, in order that they may be supplied at cost price. But so long as traders keep the market fairly supplied and do not take advantage of the ignorance of the people who visit our territory to trade, it is not perhaps desirable that Government should intervene.

11. In para. 92 Captain Hughes again recommends that he should be invested with the powers of life and death. As he has already been told that the Chief Commissioner is not in favor of his being entrusted with these powers, he should not have raised the question again in his report. The same remark applies to Captain Hughes' observations on the assumed inadequacy of the Police force in the Hills, and the Chief Commissioner entirely concurs with Colonel Stevenson as to its efficiency, and considers that it ought to be able to deal with any force which it is likely to encounter.

12. Captain Hughes' remarks in para. 126 in the matter of elephants are open to the same objection. Captain Hughes has great facilities for travelling about the district by water.

13. The Commissioner should constantly impress upon the Superintendent the necessity of endeavouring to open out regular communication with the advanced posts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and he should place himself in direct communication with Captain Lewin, the Superintendent, Chittagong Hill Tracts, on the subject.

By order of the Chief Commissioner.

J. TALBOYS WHEELER,

Secretary.

RANGOON,
4th October 1872.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE HILL TRACTS

OF

NORTHERN ARAKAN.

FOR 1871-72.

From Colonel J. F. J. STEVENSON, Commissioner of Arakan, to J. TALBOYS WHEELER, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of British Burma, No. 186, dated Akyab, the 18th July 1872.

I have the honor to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Hill Tribes, Captain W. G. Hughes, No. 50 of 15th ultimo, received here on the 8th instant.

This officer succeeded Mr. R. St. John on the 7th June last, upon the latter officer's obtaining privilege leave to Europe, which has subsequently been twice extended by leave on medical certificate.

Captain Hughes is therefore the first Superintendent since the establishment of the revised Police Force, the re-adjustment of our practical boundary and the introduction of various new measures such as the alterations made in certain posts and the head quarters' station of these tracts.

2. All these measures form the subject of report from the Chief Commissioner of British Burma, No. 64-5 P., dated 2nd June 1871, and reply thereto, Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 1451 P., of the 10th July following. The most important measure in the new scheme will be the introduction

of a general body or Code of Laws. This has been drawn up and only awaits the sanction of the Chief Commissioner after further consideration upon a point which has been referred back to me for additional information. It embraces Criminal, Civil, Revenue and Police Laws, and the Chief Commissioner will I believe be able to submit it to the Supreme Government very shortly.

3. Captain Hughes annexes a map showing what are now authoritatively declared to be our practical as well as our political boundaries; one merely territorial showing the extent of country which falls within our Empire; the other the limits of the district within which we are to exercise absolute rule.

4. Captain Hughes' report commences at para. 6, with remarks on Tributary Tribes within the British frontier. These tribes of course reside within the tracts now recognized as the hill district of Arakan. He enumunerates five; whose names properly spelt are as follows:—

1. Yakhaing or Khyoung Tha.
2. Khoomi or Khwaymi.
3. Anoo.
4. Khying.
5. Mro.

4. The Arakanese do not designate the Khyoung thas by the term *Yakhaing* nor does the *Khyoung-tha* claim the title. He is however undoubtedly an Arakanese but is regarded from his usual *habitat,* as a hill man to whom only the generic term *Khyoung-tha* (a man inhabiting the banks of streams) strictly belongs. Those who dwell upon the Kuladan river in the Hill tracts always speak of themselves as *Khyoung-thas.*

6. It is not to be understood from Captain Hughes' remarks that the language called Yakhaing, the language of Arakan, is at all different in any essential particular from the Burmese. I may say it

is identically the same : the pronunciation alone being to some extent different, and slight differences of idiom being occasionally noticeable.

7. He speaks of the Khoomies (the appellation generally used for this tribe) as numbering he believes above 3,000. He is quite right in deprecating a census of them which would undoubtedly be a measure calculated to give rise to distrust and alarm.

8. As to his surmises in regard to their origin, &c. I can only repeat what I remarked upon Mr. St. John's opinion hereon, in last year's report. I extract here some observations of Colonel Phayre's which I embodied in that report.

"The Hill people the Khyoung-thas have already "been described, "next come the "Kumi, or Kwe-"mi tribe.

"This Hill Tribe "belongs to the "same great family "of the human race "as the Myam-ma'; "their languages "being apparently of the same structure ; their phy-"siognomy alike ; they have black straight hair, "high cheek bones, oblique eyes, and scanty beards. "The Ku-mis, in short, appear like Rakhaing-thas "in a more rude state of existence ; the traditions "of the latter people refer to the former as already "possessors of the country when the Myam-ma race "entered it.

Note.

Mr. St. John enumerated the Tribes as follows last year.

1.	Rakhaing or Mrama (Burmese)	1,374
2.	Shandoo	8
3.	Khamie or Hkwaymie	3,178
4.	Anee or Hkoungtso	128
5.	Chin	545
6.	Chaw or Kookie	84

The Shandoos were only temporary residents in the country : and the Khyaus are also not aborigines of the Hill Tracts of Arakan but Khookies separated from the main stock.

"The traditions of the Rakhaing-thas refer ex-"pressly to the Hill tribes as being in possession of "the country when their own ancestors entered it.

"The Khings have a tradition that they are "direct descendants of some Burmese refugees, or

" the remnants of an army that was lost in the
" mountains when attempting to penetrate to the
" westward. From the Ku-mis I could gather no-
" thing as to their own origin; but I consider both
" tribes akin to the Myam-ma race and distinct from
" the Malay. If it be true as is asserted, that the
" immigration of the Malay race to Malacca, Que-
" dah, and other districts from Sumatra is an occur-
" rence comparatively of late date, then it is very
" improbable that they should have come so far
" north as 21° of latitude in a remote era. The
" Khyengs and Ku-mis are probably an off shoot of
" the Myam-ma race, who left their original seat
" earlier than the immediate ancestors of the Ra-
" khoing-thas. The most southern Ku-mi tribes
" who inhabit the Kuladan, represent themselves as
" being driven further south each succeeding year,
" in consequence of the encroachments of the fiercer
" tribes beyond them.

" These encroachments still proceed."

9. The remarks in the concluding portion of his 8th para. as to the decrease in crimes of violence, and the suppression of slavery, as he avers, are most satisfactory. Slavery may be said to have been put down within our jurisdiction. (But see his 70th paragraph detailing a case of sale of children.)

10. We do not know much of the Khyings, a people scattered nearly all over Burma, as Captain Hughes observes. I am collecting information regarding them through Captain Fryer, the Deputy Commissioner of Sandoway, who has a natural inclination and sufficent leisure for such enquiries.

11. Captain Hughes is quite right in the opinion he expresses in his 13th para. regarding the woven cloth of the Hill people; a white cotton cloth somewhat resembling an English quilt or counterpane is particularly noticeable, but it is manufactured by the Shandoos.

12. The opening of paths in all directions spoken of in the 15th para. is a subject under consideration.

13. Some notes on the trans-frontier tribes follow : they and the raids they have made into our territory here have been fully discussed in former reports.

14. In paragraphs 19 to 21 Captain Hughes in remarking on these tribes refers to the first raid known to us of the Looshais into Arakan in 1869, a people previously supposed to be too remote to be dangerous. Also to the Shandoos, a people considered our most powerful and warlike neighbours. There is every reason to believe that the accounts we have from time to time, and especially during last year, received of the power and hostile intentions of these people have been much exaggerated. Latterly they have done us very little harm and the lesson recently given to them by Mr. Inspector (now Assistant Superintendent) Hannay will prove most salutary. It will be remembered that with a mere handful of policemen he overtook and attacked a party of Shandoos returning from a raid and handled them very roughly, killing at least fifteen men, routing the gang and recovering all their plunder. Here I may observe that most exaggerated reports of the numbers of this party had reached us, quadrupling at least their numbers which appear in reality to have been about two hundred.

15. All the measures referred to in para. 22 by Captain Hughes are either under discussion now or have been disposed of. These are an agency at a friendly village beyond our frontier ; which has been sanctioned and restrictions upon salt. These are special subjects which have of course been duly considered in separate correspondence and need not further be dilated upon here.

16. Paragraph 27 contains another new measure brought forward here although it has been previously discussed and vetoed lately. It is a proposition

for another European officer, but we have I think a most liberal allotment of European officers, solicited and sanctioned only a year ago. Captain Hughes does not I am sure estimate properly the capacity and general efficiency of his Native officers: one of these would be a thoroughly competent official for the Lemroo. He has two European Police officers and one native Extra Assistant Commissioner. He almost wholly ignores this Assistant: speaking of him as an old worn-out man: but he is an excellent and influential official who has done good service. If he is inefficient he should of course be replaced by an efficient man.

17. As regards para. 28, I can only add that I believe a good native official, such as his Assistant Oogazan has been, would be a more suitable Assistant in that tract than nineteen out of twenty active zealous young Europeans such as he would be likely to obtain.

18. My remarks on 28 dispose also of his 29th paragraph.

He is 54 years of age.

19. The Assistant Oogazan will probably now soon be pensioned. Presumably his successor will be fit for any such duty as may be required in the Laymroo.

20. The Koos and Saydoos in that part of the country (para. 31) who are almost naked races are doubtless a very wild people, of whom very little is yet known. With a good official stationed on the Laymroo and the visits of Assistant Superintendent of Police, Lieutenant Hotham, a very active officer, we shall be able to do in good time all that we can reasonably expect to do.

21. As to the agreements with outlying people (para. 32) it is doubtless not desirable to enter into them unless we positively mean to enforce them which we do not propose to do. At present they would be likely I think to lead to unpleasant complications.

22. The following is the 34th paragraph of Captain Hughes' report.

"Of raids within the district during the year only "one has to be recorded. This was committed on "a village about nine miles to the North of the "Talukme outpost where there was stationed at the "time a body of Police under a European Inspector, "and a Company of the 27th Madras Native Infan-"try. The village comprised "Chyoung-thas" and "Quay-mees" and the raiders (Shandoos of the "Yalein Clan) with it is supposed a few "Koons" "had for some days previous to the attack been "collecting in strong force on the frontier planning "as was their original intention an attack on the "Talukme outpost.

"Timely intelligence however through a Non-"Tributary Chief reached us of their plans, and the "sepoys of the detachment under the command of "Captain MacDougal vied with the Police in strength-"ening their position and leaving nothing undone "to make a good defence."

"With such formidable war parties menacing our "frontier so early in the year together with the "probability of either the Looshais "or Howloungs" "being driven south by the Chittagong column, and "also because of the reduced state of the detach-"ment and the Police through sickness, I deemed "it advisable to apply that the post should be fur-"ther strengthened by a company of sepoys, and on "the 4th of February the Talukme garrison was "augmented by an additional half company of the "27th Madras Native Infantry under Major War-"den.

"The "Shandoos" however apparently forestal-"led, then changed their programme, and dividing "into two parties, one of which it afterwards tran-"spired crossed over to Chittagong and attacked a "Police outpost on that frontier, while the other "passed ours attacking in strong force the village of

"Ta-Ywen Aein." The police about 30 thirty "strong under the leadership of Mr. Inspector Han-"nay were quickly in pursuit, and after following "up the raiders for three days cut them off while "engaged in a task they at all times dread, namely "crossing water when making their way homewards "to the Shandoo country. After some sharp fighting "for above an hour this small police party, compel-"led them to retreat with the loss of, as has been "corroborated since, of several killed and wounded, "and leaving behind them every thing, including "silver small coin which they had looted from the "village. Sickness and casualties had at the time "unfortunately reduced the force to only about 40 "men, or otherwise a larger party would have ac-"companied Mr. Hannay, and the result would "have still been more successful."

23. I am sorry to see that Captain Hughes appears to think (concluding portion of para. 36) that a reinforcement of "disciplined troops" for our strong post at Dalekmay will be necessary next dry season, from the likelihood of combined attacks of Looshais and Shandoos, As I have said elsewhere in this review, I think that exaggerated notions are entertained of the probable danger for this source. My own opinion is that the strong body of men, seventy, allotted to this post ought to be able and were estimated to be able to keep all possible enemies at bay.

I shall however make particular enquiry on the subject before addressing the Chief Commissioner specially upon it.

24. Yet Captain Hughes in this 37th para. though he asks for "disciplined troops" strongly advocates that they should be Hill men : probably he means Goorkhas. He states, that the Company of the 27th Regiment Madras Native Infantry stationed there last dry season were zealous and active and conducted themselves altogether well. They suffered however very seriously it appears from sickness as he

details in this paragraph, I have much pleasure in corroborating Captain Hughes' commendatory remarks. The 27th men are a very well conducted and well disciplined body.

25. He next refers to an attempted raid (39) in which Lieutenant Hotham Assistant Superintendent, showed distinguished energy and activity in tracking a party of unsuccessful raiders, supposed to be some 200 Khyings.

26. As to the Laymroo again brought forward in the 40th paragraph, I have to observe that Extra Assistant Commissioner Oogazan is the proper officer for this part of the country; he may shortly be pensioned: meanwhile, and certainly during the rains a smart serjeant of police does very well here supervised by Lieutenant Hotham in his frequent visits.

27. In paragraph 42 another attempt at an attack is recounted in which the party supposed to be 200 Shandoos showed most conspicuous timidity.

28. Paragraph 43 refers to one or two rather insignificant attempts. The activity and resolution of the police were here again most creditable.

29. Captain Hughes then gives (para. 44) an account of some trans-frontier raids to which I need not add.

30 The following is his 45th paragraph, which I think shows the reasonable grounds there are for anticipating an influx of outside tribes into our tracts for protection :—

" The effect of these heavy raids accompanied by " such wanton massacre outside of the British boun- " dary will be that the weaker tribes will immigrate " into our territory, where they are sensible of the " efforts we are making to afford the Hill men, " peace, and order, and it is only a question of a " few years before we shall find, that raids and

" slavery will be strictly confined to the Shandoos; " several non-Tributary Chiefs, including some on " the North, and some on the Eastern frontier have " already signified to me their intention of leaving " their present abodes and seeking protection within " our territory."

31. Paragraphs 46 to 48 notice some recoveries of captives to which I may invite attention, fifteen persons of a total number of two hundred supposed to have been captured during the last eight years, were recovered during the year.

32. Paragraphs 50 and 51, I have previously made remarks as to the impossibility of establishing a Law giving personal control over the body of his debtor to his creditor: and the subject was again fully considered when I drafted the Sections on Civil Procedure for the Code of Laws which I have had the honor to submit to the Chief Commissioner.

33. The following is a satisfactory account of a meeting with a Khoon Chief recorded in paragraph 52:—

" Most of the non-Tributary Chiefs with the ex- " ception of those of the Shandoos and Chyns have " been met by me during the year, and no opportu- " nity has been lost of impressing on them the " policy of Government that they should abstain " from raiding, and annoying our subjects and there- " by enjoy our friendship, and the advantages of " trade with us. The Koon Chief " Kah Pah " " who since 1868 has declined to meet any of our " officers was induced in February last to visit " Talukme. He agreed in his interview with me " that he would use his best endeavour both to re- " turn the Government the " Pun Wet " captives, " and prevail on his tribe to desist from joining the " Shandoos in their expeditions across our frontier, " and from all that report says of this Chief he pos- " sesses the influence if he has wish to carry out " these engagements."

34. I hope Captain Hughes will be able to do something towards improvement in the cultivation of Cotton and Tobacco for which he says in his 55th paragraph it is desirable to do something.

35. His 56th and 57th paragraphs continue his notes on the subject and deserve notice.

36. In 58 paragraph he shows that the whole amount of revenue we raise in these tracts is Rupees 3,747. A revision of rates, equalizing them and making them juster to all, is a provision of the new Code. We need not concern ourselves with more than this for many years, I think, it is certainly not the primary object of Government to raise a large revenue from these wild people. The evils of inequality which Captain Hughes complains of, have as I have just observed, been obviated by the new Code.

37. I am not however quite so sanguine as to the rapid influx of outlying tribes as Captain Hughes is, apparently upon the ground of our low taxes: vide his paragraph 60.

38. I cannot take up the proposition for indirect taxation which Captain Hughes brings forward in his 61st and 62nd paragraphs; in principle it is admitted to be objectionable, and Captain Hughes does not submit any distinct project. He obviously aims at Inland Customs' duties but has I should suppose not considered the great objections there are to them.

39. His remarks on Tribunals, 63 to 67 need no comment.

40. Paragraph 68, as to stamps: I have excluded them, for reasons stated in the new Code and formerly more than once.

41. In 70 he states the following circumstances.

" To show the baneful influence of Pleaders being
" admitted to the Hills I may note that in the case
" of Government and Kahpan *vs.* 8 others charged

" with murder as noted in paragraph 89 of this re-
" port, two of the defendants acquitted by the Ses-
" sions Court who had entertained an Eurasian
" Pleader from Akyab had to sell their relatives as
" slaves to obtain the money to meet payment of
" their fees. The restoration of the latter to their
" relatives has been ordered; one boy was sold for
" Rupees 180, and the other a girl for Rs. 211."

An offence has here clearly been committed against the Law, (of which the people are cognizant) and strictly speaking Captain Hughes should have taken proper proceedings accordingly. I do not think that his order was injudicious. It was a prompt and just mode of dealing with such a case quite suitable to the people of the country.

42. Paragraph 74. His action as to arbitrators has been judicious.

43. I extract for convenient reference his 79th to 83rd paragraphs inclusive, regarding Criminal justice.

" The following statement shews the total num-
" ber of cases disposed of during 1871 as compared
" with 1870.

	Cases disposed of
1870...	33
1871...	24
Decrease....	9

" The total number of offences reported during
" the year was 31, and the number brought to trial
" as compared with the previous year stands thus :—

	Offences reported	No. of persons brought to trial.
1870... ...	48	60
1871... ...	31	46
Decrease....	17	14

"The following table shows the result of the con-
"victions of the persons brought to trial during the
"year 1871, as compared with preceding year.

	Convicted.
1871...	22
1870...	40
Decrease...	18

"Of Rupees 614 inflicted as fines in 1871, 474
"was realized against 322-8 in 1870.

"Save crime of a violent type the Hill Tracts are
"exceptionably free from casual crime, and the in-
"dustrious habits of the people, and their real love
"for manual labor is the chief cause of this happy
"state of things."

I cannot however fully endorse his opinion as to the industrious habits of the people and their real love of labour. I think that these are not conspicious, unless it be intended to apply to the women as well as to the men : indeed the women work by far the hardest ; and this, I believe was the opinion both of Mr. Davis and Mr. St. John.

44. As to paragraph 88, I have to remark that I certainly cannot advocate the introduction of Gaming Laws in the Hills yet I fear it would lead to much oppression, and be viewed as a very alarming interference with the habits of the people at present.

45. I regret to remark upon the 89th para. of Captain Hughes' report that he has thought proper to make some comments upon a case tried by the Session's Judge as to a delay which took place in trying a case in the Hills. He states that there is little doubt that the result was a failure of justice. For these unbecoming observations he has been called to account by the Judicial Commissioner : and I had occasion to remark upon the passage in his Annual Criminal report, as follows :

"And I further think that it was not disadvan-
"tageous in this particular case that there was

" time for angry feelings to cool and for excited
" persons to ponder upon their knowledge of facts."

And the delay was specially explained by direction of the Chief Commissioner to his satisfaction I believe, immediately after it occurred. A copy of that report is hereunto annexed.

46. The full explanation of the delay is that in the case in question Mr. St. John, Captain Hughes' predecessor had been for some time (2 or 3 months) before he left his district on privilege leave to Europe, actively engaged in endeavours to capture all the supposed participators in the crime. These have never up to the present date been captured. He was naturally desirous that he who had the best knowledge of the circumstances should himself commit the case to the Sessions' Court. He had held some preliminary proceedings and was occupied in preparing the case when he obtained privilege leave for 3 months, the real cause of his taking leave being ill-health. Captain Hughes was Magistrate of Akyab at this time, and according to the invariable practice as regards the Hill tribes since the appointment of a superintendent, he was appointed to take temporary charge having the court and office of the district in the town of Akyab just as the Superintendent, as I have above stated, always has had heretofore during the rainy reason. This arrangement for the residence of the Superintendent was Colonel Phayre's who had prescribed by written rules that he should reside only from November till May in the Hills, and the remainder of the year might live in Akyab. In fact the 1st Superintendent Mr. Davis usually went away on leave for part of the rainy season, the Magistrate of Akyab carrying on his duties in accordance with the existing rules, in Akyab, and as a matter of course he did not visit the Hill tracts, his duties as town Magistrate not permitting him to do so.

47. The prisoners in question remained in Jail during Mr. St. John's leave, simply because Captain

Hughes the Officiating Superintendent could not proceed to the Hills to try them.

Mr. St. John obtained an extension of leave and about the same time the Chief Commissioner ordered the trial of the prisoners, for which purpose Captain Hughes proceeded to the Hills on 1st September. He committed the case on the 18th idem and the Sessions Judge *immediately* afterwards proceeded to the Head quarters of the Tracts to hold his Sessions, and after a trial which lasted 3 days the prisoners, three in number, were acquitted on the 8th October following; it is to be presumed for the best possible reasons.

48. I have to add that the Superintendent now resides, under the new arrangement, all the year round in the Hills. His head quarters' station is about 120 miles by water from Akyab, and easily accessible, not nearly so far or so inaccessible as Sandoway, while also there is a large station only 75 miles from Akyab; yet I am sorry to see that Captain Hughes advocates in his 92nd paragraph a measure which has been discountenanced by the highest authority in the Province, to say nothing of my own objections, repeatedly pointed out to him; viz. that he should have the power of sentencing to death.

In the draft Code which has passed through the Chief Commissioner's hands, such power as the Chief Commissioner and I consider ample are provided for.

49. His 93rd paragraph urges the propriety of endeavouring to ensure strict justice and redress to a race so peculiarly constituted, an object which I need hardly say is steadily kept in view by our Administration, not only as regards Hill men but all men.

50. In reviewing his remarks upon the Police commencing at paragraph 95, I have to premise that they have worked remarkably well and have proved themselves an efficient and trustworthy body of men

in all branches of their duty. Undoubtedly a great deal of the credit for these results is due primarily to Captain Hughes who has shewn himself to be a careful painstaking and judicious Police officer. I visited the Hills immediately after the new system was introduced and was much pleased with all of Captain Hughes' measures and the attention he paid to the welfare and instruction of his men. He has been well assisted by Lieutenant Hotham and Mr. Hannay who are very active and zealous officers. Mr. Hannay indeed as will be remembered ably availed himself of an opportunity of distinguishing himself and a small party of Policemen in action with the Shandoos.

51. I am glad to see that in his remarks on the Police, paragraphs 97 and 98 he speaks of the good service of the hill-men employed as scouts: we have so employed some of them with advantage for about 3 years.

52. In the 99th paragraph as follows, he shows the constitution of his force.

" The composition of the force will be shown by " a glance at the table below :—

40	Munipooreans.
20	Rajah Bunshees.
56	Hill men including Chyoung thas.
71	Arakanese and Burmese.
51	Other Natives of India.
Total...238	

Raja-bunsees or Myamma-gyee are the Mughs properly so called.

53. I cannot concur with Captain Hughes' view as to the inadequacy of the Police force (paragraph 100): on the contrary I am persuaded that it is ample; and my experience certainly is that the formidable war parties which it has, as he says to deal with, are not so formidable as he supposes.

54. The strength of this force was fixed after a very full discussion only a year ago by the Chief Commissioner, in consultation with the Inspector General of Police, myself and Mr. St. John : Mr. St. John who was thoroughly competent to give an opinion was allowed all that he asked for. I must say that I have found Captain Hughes far too much disposed to propose changes and new measures of all kinds.

55. The questions of roads, patrolling, &c., &c. (paragraph 101) are receiving the attention of the Chief Commissioner.

56. Paragraph 104 : as to climate, Captain Hughes is I believe right in the main, it is very trying from excessive heat and moisture, and unhealthy for most people. He has manfully maintained his own position from the 7th September until now, with a run of a few days only on public business to Akyab. He has suffered a little from fever but has not been prostrated.

57. Paragraph 105 : also deserves notice.

"The men of the force have performed the varied "duties which have fallen to them in a very credit-"able manner, and doubtless will continue now "that they are fairly settled down to their work to "improve. They are armed with the long and "short fusil or Brown Bess, but a few Enfield rifles "entrusted to the best men would render the force "still more effective."

58. Paragraph 107 : Dalekmay the frontier post being only some 20 miles from our boundary is rightly named, I think, though Captain Hughes states that it is not so, not being actually upon the boundary.

59. His remarks upon the absence of violent crimes in the Tracts which I here subjoin are a corroboration of his previous remarks upon the excellent quality and services of the Police, and surely also of their sufficiency in numbers (paragraph 108).

"I may observe that notwithstanding there has "been a very great increase of trade in the Hill "tracts during the year under review and that a far "larger number of trading boats than hereto before "have passed up, and drawn between the frontier "and the foot of the Hill carrying often valuable "merchandize, and large sums of money from the "plains with which to purchase Hill produce, not "a theft, robbery or murder for plunder has oc-"curred which may be received as somewhat in "proof of the efficiency of the police, and the gene-"ral quiet state of the Hill men and their amenabi-"lity (save amongst themselves) to control, and "order."

60. The following also (paragraph 110) as to his Public Works is satisfactory :—

PUBLIC WORKS.

"Nothing has been executed by the above De-"partment during the year in the Hill tracts. As "directed by the Chief Commissioner in para. 15 "of his scheme for the future administration of "these Tracts plans have been submitted, and were "sanctioned in March last for the erection of a "Court House, lock-up, and private house at the "Head quarter of the Superintendent at Palukwa, "and it is expected that nearly all will be completed "by the end of the year. The difficulty lies in want "of supervision and skilled labor in these Tracts."

61. He has some remarks (paragraph 114 to 116) as to agriculture, to which I may draw attention. This subject has been discussed in previous reports and I shall not lengthen my review by additional observations.

62. But the following passage (para. 117) is worthy of extraction :—

"Unskilled labor per day is 6d., there are none "of the artisan class in the hills, hence no skilled "labor, though for hard rough work, I think that

" the Hill man of Arakan would hold his own against
" any one in the world. The amount of fatigue,
" and physical strength that he possesses is astonish-
" ing, and all is done, with such perfect good humor,
" and happiness that it is quite a pleasure to see a
" body of Hill men engaged in a work which would
" in the plains be fittingly assigned to either elephant
" or buffaloes."

63. As to the public health (para. 118) he considers longevity the rule: but that epidemics of cholera and small pox occasionally cause much loss of life, and that skin and eye diseases are very prevalent. Many of the hill people, men especially, are indeed loathsome objects from cutaneous disorders.

64. I shall notice some of his remarks upon communications (paragraph 124). I think it is on a sufficiently satisfactory footing at present. A telegraph line to Myouk Toung is not I think called for: and Government will hardly give us so expensive a means of communication as a steam-launch, much as I should like to have one, unless we could show a much stronger necessity for it than we can.

65. Paragraph 126, I must respectfully leave it to the Chief Commissioner to comment, if he thinks it necessary, upon Captain Hughes' remarks as to the elephants he requires, after all that the Chief Commissioner, and I have written upon the subject. Communications, as I have said, have the present attention of the Chief Commissioner.

66. The following are his remarks upon education, paragraph 127.

" There is one Budhist Kyoung at a village called
" Myouk Toung, at the foot of the Hills, over which
" 3 Priests preside with 30 scholars, who are put
" through the usual secular course that is pursued
" with so much good in the monastries of Burma.
" No attempt has as yet been made to introduce
" education among the Hill men who know no-
" thing beyond their Hill language and a "patois"
" of their own, which they have learnt from the

"Arakanese. I have submitted to the Commission-
"er what I would propose on this point in a general
"memo: which I had the honor on being called
"upon of submitting with my letter No. 13 Politi-
"cal of the 6th of February last, and which detailed
"in a general way the rules I would propose for the
"Administration of these Tracts."

There is necessarily some difficulty at present as to funds for schools, but I believe the Superintendent may be able before long to introduce some elementary education.

67. As to the inadvisability of teaching the people the Arakanese language (para. 128), it is a mistake to style it a corruption of the Burmese language: the languages as I have had occasion to observe are the same, rather differently pronounced.

68. As to the 130th paragraph, the Hill district has lately been provided with a suitable subordinate medical officer (a Hindoo) from Madras, who has volunteered for the service.

Hospital Assistant.

69. I have only to add to para. 135 that the Extra Assistant Commissioner herein mentioned, Oogazan, was temporarily allowed to quit the Laymroo post by the orders of the Chief Commissioner and stationed on the Kuladan. The Chief Commissioner in company with myself had an opportunity of seeing this fine old officer last month (June) in the Hills and he appeared to be quite fit for a couple of years' more service.

70. I am bound to say however that I think a smart Serjeant of Police or Head constable (Native) quite adequate to the duties of the Laymroo, superintended by Lieutenant Hotham who may and ought to be frequently on duty here. I shall send a copy of these remarks to Captain Hughes, since he has so frequently expressed a difference of opinion with me on this point, and certainly the Extra Assistant Commissioner Oogazan might well be employed here next dry season, the only working season of the year.

71. Paragraph 136. The new Bazaar at Myouk Toung does not now do well but I am not without hopes of its recovery. Trading boats ply much more freely up the river than formerly.

72. Paragraph 137. It is most satisfactory to notice that a bazaar at Dalekmay promises to be successful. This is surely a most satisfactory set-off to the comparative failure of the Myouk Toung bazaar. The whole line of the Kuladan being now so well protected, especially by the strong frontier post, trade is naturally attracted up the river and a good bazaar at Dalekmay will probably be the result.

73. The question of boundaries (Para. 138) has been under discussion with Colonel Thuillier. The Chief Commissioner has taken up the subject and recommended certain measures for the next dry season.

74. I extract the 139th and 140th paras. as to "rewards for service."

"During the year the Chief Commissioner was "pleased to recognize the services of the Police, and "Friendly chiefs who assisted in the affair with the "Shandoos" alluded to in para. 34 by a present of "a rifle to the head constable, and Rupees five "hundred and fifty with 12 muskets to the Hill "chiefs whose aid contributed to our success. Mr. "Inspector Hannay has since received his promo-"tion to an Officiating Assistant Superintendent of "Police.

"For long, and faithful past services the Extra "Assistant Commissioner Oogazan received from "the Government of India a gold chain or Tsalway "as a mark of their approval."

75. In paragraph 143, Captain Hughes reports that he has prepared a collection of dresses, weapons, and ornaments under the direction of the Chief Commissioner for the Calcutta Museum.

76. In paragraph 144 he anticipates good results from the late Military expeditions into the Looshai country.

77. In 146th paragraph he has remarks as to certain operations of these troops which were desirable last year: these may be considered worthy of attention. Mainly he is probably right but the operations referred to would I believe have involved a very large additional expenditure.

78. In his 147th paragraph he has some detailed remarks as to the increasing confidence in our rule manifesting itself among the Hill people, which is very gratifying. His own patience and good temper must largely contribute to the satisfactory results he anticipates.

79. If the following remarks are well founded we have indeed made a good beginning in the Hills.

"A slowly perceptible desire however on their "part to seek redress for their wrongs, real or "imaginary, at the hands of our officers, and to ob-"tain the freedom of their relatives in slavery by "regular procedure, furnishes the best proof that our "rule is having some permanent hold on them, that "they appreciate it, and are gradually forsaking "their time honored usages."

80. But in reading this (147th) para. it must be borne in mind that Colonel Phayre as Deputy Commissioner of Akyab and Chief Commissioner of British Burma, did all that it was possible to do for these Hill people by personal supervision as well as by his measures during about thirty years; and that perhaps it was just at the proper time that he introduced permanent European supervision, six or seven years back: and certainly the officer he then appointed Mr. J. Davis was as competent and suitable as any one known, and was quite as successful as could have been expected. It must not be assumed that but little has has been done until now.

81. And further I cannot concur with Captain Hughes as to Native Agency. If only Europeans can be trusted to administer under us among natives, Government would for many obvious reasons be impossible for us.

82. Paragraph 149, I hope that Captain Hughes and his officers may in good time be able to obtain a competent knowledge of the Khoomie* language at least.

83. He speaks well of the following officers (para. 152) all of whom I have mentioned in the course of the report, viz. Extra Assistant Commissioner Oogazan and Lieutenant Hotham, and Mr. Hannay, Officiating Assistant Superintendents of Police.

SERVICE TELEGRAM.

From Akyab, ...To Rangoon.

From Commissioner, ...To Assistant Secretary Chief Commissioner.

Trial of Tha Baw and others ordered at Myouk Toung at once. This is one of the most brutal crimes and most dangerous to our rule in the Hills I have heard of. St. John took great pains to get the case up but I believe some principals could not not be captured. He could not return to Hills after last visit to Akyab, ill health compelled him to go home in June. It has been impossible to send Hughes to Hills till within last few days. Only one young Assistant in Akyab, subordinate Magistrate and not Justice of peace could not relieve Hughes. I thought a few days more might well be allowed to enable St. John to return and try this

* Since writing the above Mr. Hannay Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, has come to Akyab on business accompanied by some Khoomies. I find he speaks the language freely, and readily understands and is understood by them. So far as I can judge he appears to be able to act as an Intepreter at least on ordinary topics.

case himself, as in the interest of justice it is most desirable he should do.

On telegram received I ordered Hughes off immediately, Buckle relieving him.

AKYAB,
The 30th August, 1871.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

POLITICAL No. 50, DATED 5TH JUNE 1871.

This report is submitted in accordance with para. 11 of the provisional Rules, and is divided into the following heads :—

A.—Preface giving a description of the country, and its inhabitants with the new boundaries exemplified by a map.

B.—Foreign, or relations with tribes beyond the British Frontier, and raids during the year.

C.—Domestic, comprising all matters, connected with the internal administration during the year, together with the usual Criminal and Civil Justice Report condensed.

D.—Separate memoranda for the Administration Report, which with statistical returns have already been submitted.

2. A description of the country, its inhabitants, their domestic life, and chief characteristics has been so lucidly, and extensively treated by my predecessor in his Administration Report for last year, that I feel there is little room left on this head without my being guilty of repetition, and so will dwell more on how the administration of the Hill tracts has been effected by the new measures sanctioned by the Government of India (in letter No. 1,451 Political Foreign Department, dated Simla, 10th July

1871, and on the social progress, and condition of the several tribes forming my charge.

3. One of the most important steps arising out of this new organization was the jurisdiction, and the country comprising the "Hill Tracts" being so definitely fixed as to leave but little room for doubt as to what constituted British, and what Foreign territory.

4. The map attached to this report colored red, exhibits the district as it now is, and throughout which British rule is felt and carried out in as firm, and considerate a manner as practicable, while that portion colored blue denotes the country inhabited by tribes *outside* our frontier, and whom our policy has been to control politically. By this arrangement the new frontier boundaries are shown as distinct from the country of the Non-Tributary tribes.

5. It is to the several divisions of the hill men who live within our frontier, and are subjects of our Government, that I shall for the present confine myself, and afterwards treat of the Non-Tributary clans under Head B.

Tributary Tribes within the British Frontier enumerated.

6. The former may be divided into the following distinct divisions, each with a separate language, and nothing in common, beyond their general distrust of each other, the consequence of past feuds and raids.

1. Rahkain or Chyoung-thas.
2. Khamies.
3. Anoos.
4. Chins or Khyns.
5. Mros,

7. The "Rahkains" or "Chyoung-thas" are of Burmese stock, and inhabit the banks of the Koladyne stream as far as our frontier line, none living

inland, and from their quiet love of industry, and the pursuit of cultivation they give but little trouble. Their language, oral and written, is a corruption of the Burmese, and their religion a sacred homage to the spirits which preside over the woods, groves, and streams. Cowed, and oppressed by the despotic rule of a Burmese Government when it reigned the paramount power in Arakan, numbers of this race crossed over to Chittagong and are to be found in the Zemindaree of "Bow-men;" their number in this district is noted as 1,552, which may be accepted as correct.

8. The Khamies are the principal tribe of the district, and from their turbulent restless, and revengeful spirit demand unremitting attention, their number is noted as 2,986, but this I believe to be under the mark; it would be undesirable to take a census of them until such time as their existing suspicions of our intentions, and object in dwelling in the midst of them be thoroughly overcome. Their religion is identical with that of all the hill men, namely, spirit worship. I am extremely doubtful as to their origin, for though their physiognomy would ally them to the Burmese, their habits, dress, and language wonld point to their being a peculiar people if not the aborigines of the hills. With no written language, of migratory habits, and without buildings or structures of any form, either in perpetuation of the deeds of their ancestors, or of the rites, and myths of their primeval religion, neither archœology or further research is available to assist in determining their history, or from where they sprung, and beyond conjecture little would appear to be known of them. To the Government they have hitherto become notorious for their cruel deeds of rapine, and murder, which since 69 have become, year by year, less frequent, and may be regarded, together with the suppression of slavery, as one of the many satisfactory results of our rule, and in some degree, compensating for the costly outlay of the administration; were the ægis of Government protection withdrawn from the Hill tracts, then the hill men would speedily

resume their time honored usages of brutal raids, while the Chittagong, and Arakan Frontier would be in a perpetual state of warfare, and live in daily dread of hostile incursions.

9. The "Anoos" form an insignificant race having a distinct language of their own, and live to the east of "Talukme, our furthest police post north. They are a bolder, and hardier set of mountaineers than most of the hill men which accounts for their remaining so far north in spite of their numerical weakness, while other much stronger tribes in number, have had according to their degree of physical strength, and resources to retire successively south, until we find the weakest, and most pacific adjoining the plains.

10. The "Chin" or Khyn are a race of hill men not peculiar to the Hill tracts of Arakan, and in this respect differ from the Tributary tribes of "Khamies," "Anoos," "Chyoung-thas," "Mros" and form the Non-Tributary ones of Shandoos, and Koongs, all of whose habital is strictly the hills of Arakan. Chins are met with over nearly all Pegu, and in no marked way do they appear to differ from the Chins of Arakan, either in their dress or universal custom of tattooing the faces of their women. Their language is a distinct one, and little is known of their internal habits of life. The Chins of the Hill tracts inhabit the chain of mountains, east of the Lemroo river, dividing Burma Proper from Arakan; they raid indiscriminately both in Burma Proper, and British Burma. We are as regards this race much in the dark, and will I am afraid continue to be so, unless some change is in the present administration. From a vocabulary of a few words of their language which I have collected, it would appear that some of their words bear a resemblance to the Mro dialect. They are very dexterous in the use of their bows, and to their poisoned arrows fall the biggest game of their forests.

11. The "Mros" are very identical with the "Khamies," inhabiting the Mee river which is a

confluent of the Koladyne, and number about 1,700; their religion is the same, and dress nearly so, but their language is quite distinct. From time immemorial they have been regarded as the lowest in the scale of physical strength among the clans of these Hills, and have been perhaps more devastated on, and had a greater number of captives taken as slaves from them, than any of the other tribes. Situated as they are on the "Mee," their position is extremely weak, and they are exposed to the attacks of the Non-tributary warlike race of Koons, and Shandoos from the north, and Chins on the east (vide map.)

neral customs. 12. On the whole there is a great similarity in the customs of all the 5 divisions who have in the above been briefly alluded to, and over whom our rule prevades. Their religion is the same, and their feasts, method of agriculture, social usages, and Civil laws, anent debt, marriage, and divorce, are almost all identical, and the one striking dissimilarity is the Babel of tongues, among so numerically few people of the same habital.

13. The only art practised is that of weaving, in which all the Hill Tribes treated of in this report are very dexterous, most of the garments they wear are woven from cotton grown by them. Of pottery, they also know enough to make earthern pots to cook in, but these are giving way to the iron, and tin utensils of a more advanced stage brought up by hawkers from the plains.

Rivers. 14. The principal rivers are the Lemroo and Koladyne; the source of neither is clearly known, owing to that part of the country being unsurveyed, but the "Koladyne" is said to take its rise among the "Shandoos," and the "Lemroo" to the north of the latitude of Dalekmay in the watershed separating Upper Burma, and the Arakan Hills. Of these two, the Koladyne is a grand, and picturesque river open to large size trading boats as far as 140 miles from its mouth all the year round, and to a steamer of

light draught for ninety miles. The bulk of the population inhabit the banks of these rivers, and their confluents, the "Mee," "Pee," "Peng," "Ru," "Paluk," and others all of which are shown on the map.

15. The streams, and rivulets form the only roads, and means of communication, and the country sadly wants opening out, for instance the Paluk Chyoung is the usual route taken by the Shandoos to their country, and like all the other small streams is a dry bed during the fine weather, and a mountain torrent in the rains.

Area of district.

16. The total area of this district is calculated to be 5,696·30 square miles, which extent, with the exception of the water courses comprises high rich hill land, covered with dense, and luxuriant forest where for the most part nature has been so bounteous in its gifts, as to enable the hill man with his scanty knowledge of the culture of the soil to reap rich corps of rice, cotton, tobacco and sesamum seed, with but little trouble.

B.—Foreign.

17. Having briefly dwelt on the condition of the hill tribes inhabiting British Territory or the district termed the Hill tracts of Arakan shewn red in the accommpanying map I shall under this head allude to the Non-tributary tribes living *without* our frontier, and to control most of whom, from their normal state of raiding into British territory, murdering British subjects, and carrying them off into captivity, has been the most anxious point of the Administration. The success attending our efforts in this direction will be shown, and what little has been attained towards cultivating friendly relations with them detailed, while the means which have been further suggested with these important objects in view for the future noted.

Non-Tributary Hill Tribes.

19. The Trans Frontier or Non-tributary tribes may be classed as :—

1st. The Looshais.
2nd. The Shandoos.
3rd. The Koons.
4th. The Chins or Khyns.
5th. The Kontso.

20. Of the above, the "Looshais," and "Chins" or "Khyns" are the least known to the Hill tracts. The first raid of the former on subjects of the Government was in January 1869, when in strong force they attacked a tributary village called "Lahawko" within a few miles of our furthest police post north "Talukme," killing 9, and carrying off 34 captives. During the year under review, they have been too fully engaged in protecting themselves, and families against the Looshai expeditionary force to find time to raid across our frontier, though on more than one occasion there was some apprehension less they or some of the Howloungs should combine with such clans of Shandoos as are friendly with them for hostile incursions. They inhabit the country to the north west of the Shandoos and practically have hitherto been considered too remote to affect us much.

21. The Shandoos and their domestic life are treated of by my predecessor in para. 19 of his report for last year, and by Captain Lewin who describes them as "a powerful and warlike nation," though for a detailed description of them and of what is of greater import, namely, their political position and status, as affecting the Hill Tracts of Arakan, I would beg attention to.* They may be divided into five great clans the "Moung Dus" and "Tankraims" and "Toungoats" inhabiting the north east and north west adjoining Burma Proper, and the "Yaleins" and "Boukyees" to the south adjoining the "Koons." From what information I have gathered from captives who have managed to escape from them, their

* Letter No. 11-8, Foreign Department Political from J. Talboys Wheeler, Esq., to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated Rangoon, June 27th 1870.

number may roughly be computed as from 7 to 8,000 souls.

22. Dread of the revenge of the Tributary hill men further south, whom they have from time immemorial preyed on, prevents their leaving their mountain homes for any period of time, except for the sole purpose of raiding. Our friendly relationship with them is therefore nil ; and once we achieve the establishment of the same, and they become aware of our pacific intentions, and power, and the advantages to be derived from trade ; there is much reason to believe that they will cease from molesting our territory, and subjects. A long succession of uninterrupted successful incursions into our territory accompanied by brutal excesses has rendered them such an object of terror to the other hill clans south, that these "Shandoos," have been regarded by them as almost invincible, as well as all powerful. Further detailed measures have been forwarded to the Commissioner in my letters Nos. 32, 37, Political of the 15th of April and 1st May 1872, (as the Chief Commissioner in para. 4, of this letter, Political, No. 125-15 of the 16th of March signified his readiness to consider any detailed suggestion on the question of the salt supply) with a view of letting this impracticable race know our policy, and of gaining over, if it be possible their good will and confidence, and with this object the two most important adjuncts special sanction for which is asked are :—

1st. The establishment of a trustworthy, and reliable Agent or Agents at the only Non-Tributary villages frequented by the Shandoos about 30 miles beyond our frontier.

2nd. The resumption by Government of its right to control the salt supply which of all commodities is the *most* difficult for them to obtain, and want of which is a frequent cause of their raiding,—free trade at present precludes our control of it ; up to this time all attempts on the part of our officers to have an interview with any of their chiefs have

proved unsuccessful. They hold the Looshais alone in dread; and a suggestion of my predecessor's that we might control them through Looshai agency, especially now, that the latter have been brought to reason would appear worthy of special consideration.

23. The substance of both of these propositions was also brought forward by my predecessor in paras. 53, 54, and 56 of last year's report, and the 2nd had as far back as 1864 received the attention of Sir A. Phayre, who was fully alive to the desirability of opening out communication with the Shandoos, but the difficulty has been to give effect to the scheme.

24. The "Koons" are an insignificant, but very troublesome clan, computed at about 300, their control, position (vide map) between our frontier, and the Shandoos, and their propensity for raiding is the cause of their being a kind of jackal to the latter, whom they almost invariably join in hostile incursions on our people, and villages. In January 1870 they joined the "Bankyee" Shandoos in an attack on "Punwet" village on the *Mee* river, killing four, and carrying off into captivity 30 British subjects, only three of whom have since been restored.

25. Within the last few years their small tract of land has become the hot bed of out laws, raiders, and most of the absconders from justice who after the commission of violent crime in the Hill tracts fly the British territory.

26. Next come the "Chins" or "Khyns" of whom as before remarked, with the exception of the more southern "Chins," little is known, either as to the cause of their raids, which are signalized by as much want of butchery as accompany "Shandoos" ones or of their country. The "Koladyne," and northern frontier demand such constant, and unremitting attention on the part of the Superintendent as to leave him no time to visit the Lemroo division, which from its position is quite isolated from the district,

Desirability of a European Officer for the Lemroo Division of the Hill Tracts.

27. A Native Officer is now in charge whose old age, and want of activity has rendered unequal to the responsible duties of an almost independent charge; as his withdrawal from the Lemroo Division has been ordered, as a substitute for him sanction has been asked for a young, active, and zealous European Officer who can rule this hitherto "genus incognita" firmly, and above all control them, and it is hoped gain that confidence over them which we are slowly but surely establishing over the hill men of Koladyne.

28. With such an officer in charge of the Mee, and Lemroo to enquire into the course of the old feuds, and above all settle them before they develop into petty, and cruel warfare and also maintain an efficient supervision over the police, I have no hesitation in saying that raids by Lemroo Chins would seldom or ever occur.

The advantage to the Hill Tracts of such a measure also advocated by Mr. St. John.

29. This measure was advocated by my predecessor in paragraph 143 of last year's report, and an opportune time is now afforded for introducing it with no extra expense should an officer of the grade of Inspector be deemed competent for the charge. The present incumbent is 55, and entitled to a gratuity or pension, which he states, he would sooner take than have to remain permanently in the Lemroo on the score of his health.

30. So much depends on the officer in charge of the Lemroo whether that part of the district is to enjoy quiet, and immunity from raids, that I deem it necessary to bring it prominently to notice. Fleeting visits paid once or twice to it a year can do but little good as the hill men inhabiting it are more backwards and shy than those of the Koladyne.

31. These northern "Chins" are surrounded by other wild tribes who join them in their forays, of whom equally little is known, and among whom are the "Koos" and "Saydoos" who are described as in an almost perfect state of nudity, with the exception of a bamboo or head wreathlet round their waist.

32. Lastly come the "Kongtoos" whose habitat is between the waters of the Mee and Tsauree Chyoung, a little north of the latitude of the Talukme out post, and to the north of whom is the Shandoo clan of "Bouk-kyees," their number is computed to be about 8 or 900 souls. The agreement framed with the chief of this clan by Mr. Davies, as reported by the Chief Commissioner to the Government of India in 1868, by which they bound themselves to abstain from attacking any of our villagers has been to some extent ratified, as there is no reason for believing that they have formed any of the war parties who have for hostile purposes crossed our frontier during 1871. They are more practicable than others of the Non-tributaries, and are anxious to keep on good terms with us.

33. I shall now proceed to note.

Raids.

1st.—The raids which have occurred during 1871 WITHIN the district of the Hill Tracts.

2nd.—Attempts at the same.

Raids within British Territory.

34. Of raids within the district during the year, only one has to be recorded. This was committed on a village about nine miles to the north of the Talukme outpost, where there was stationed at the time a body of police under a European Inspector, and a company of the 27th Madras Native Infantry. The village comprised "Chyoung-thas," and "Quaymies" and the raiders (Shandoos of the Yalein clan) with it is supposed a few "Koons" had for some days previous to the attack been collecting in strong force on the frontier, planning as was their original intention, an attack on the Talukme outpost.

Timely intelligence however through a Non-tributary Chief reached us of their plans, and the sepoys of the detachment under the command of Captain MacDougal vied with the Police in strengthening their position and leaving nothing undone to make a good defence.

With such formidable war parties menacing our frontier so early in the year, together with the probability of either the "Looshais" or "Howloungs" being driven south by the Chittagong column, and also because of the reduced state of the detachment and the police, through sickness, I deemed it advisable to apply that the post should be further strengthened by a company of sepoys, and on the 4th of February the Talukmo garrison was augmented by an additional half company of the 27th Madras Native Infantry under Major Warden. The "Shandoos" however apparently forestalled, then changed their programme, and dividing into two parties, one of which it afterwards transpired crossed over to "Chittagong," and attacked a police outpost on that frontier, while the other passed ours attacking in strong force the village of "Ta Yuen Asin." The police about (30) thirty strong under the the leadership of Mr. Inspector Hannay, were quickly in pursuit, and after following up the raiders for three days cut them off while engaged in a task they at all times dread, namely, crossing water when making their way homewards to the Shandoos country; after some sharp fighting for above an hour this small police party, compelled them to retreat with the loss of, as has been corroborated since, of several killed and wounded, and leaving behind them every thing including silver small coin which they had looted from the village. Sickness and casualties had at the time unfortunately reduced the force to only about 40 men or otherwise a larger party would have accompanied Mr. Hannay, and the result would have still been more successful.

35. A full account of the transaction in the proper department (has been submitted to Government, and as it is the only occasion on which since we have occupied Arakan our men have fairly met the hitherto so regarded invincible Shandoos, the result both in inspiring confidence in our police, and proving to the hill men our power to defend them, cannot but be productive of the best results for the future Administration of these Tracts.

36. This raid therefore proved a complete failure, neither any captives or loot having been taken off, though one old woman to infirm to escape was burnt to death when the village was fired by the raiders. The Shandoos baulked in their prey, and anxious to recover their old prestige have announced their intention of again measuring their strength with ours, and with the danger of such of the Looshais or southern Howloungs as are friendly with the Shandoos joining them in making cause against a common enemy and endeavouring to recoup themselves from their recent disasters by raids, and incursions across our frontier, it behoves us on the termination of the approaching rains to guard against any reaction, and further strengthen our frontier defence until such time at least as we may have reason for believing that the lesson inflicted on the Looshais is likely to be permanent in its effects. The police alone, viewing their composition and frequent casualties are unable to do this, but require the moral influence of disciplined troops as was during the year under review afforded them, and which had no doubt much to say to the general quiet state of the Hill Tracts.

37. Should it be comtemplated strengthening the Arakan border with troops next year I would strongly, advocate hill men, and not Madras sepoys, or men from the plains who succumb to the climate so quickly, that of a company, and a half on field service at Dalakme during January, February and March, the total admissions to Hospital during those months were respectively 51, 44 and 40. The conduct of the men was however most exemplary, and perfect harmony existed between them, and the hill men.

38. It may be here urged that the power of the Shandoos, and their prestige has been overstated; possibly this may be true, judged from our view of looking at things, but we have only I presume to be guided by facts as we find them, and if we adopt this course we learn from previous correspondence on the

Vide letter No. 11-8 from Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Political, dated Rangoon, June 27th 1870, to Secretary Government of India, anent the Hill Tracts.

Arakan Frontier that Shandoo power and agency has above in the past retarded the progress of the hill men, and inflicted nearly all the harm, and evil which we are now endeavouring to prevent.

1st attempt at a raid within the British frontier of the Hill Tracts.

39. As stated in para. 11 of this report the hill men of the "Mros" clan inhabiting the "Mee" are exposed to attack both from the Non-Tributary Tribes of "Shandoo" and "Koongs" on the north and the Chins on the east, and on the 3rd January a war party of between 200, and 250 Chins had arrived after 3 days journey from the Upper Lemroo to raid in the Mee, the marauding party was detected by a villager who gave information to the temporary guard at the "Sawa" that had in anticipation of a raid lately been placed there. The police sergeant with the few available men he could procure started after the raiders, and did not leave off the chase until he with some of his men were rendered "hors de combat" from being spiked with sharp pointed sticks which as is their wont had been placed here, and there by the Chins to delay pursuits. The Assistant Superintendent, Lieutenant Hotham then continued the pursuit, and though unsuccessful in coming across the war party proved to a race who have hitherto had it much their own way that these were officers, and men who would, and could follow them up to their native fastnesses.

40. The account of the journey taken by Mr. Hotham is most interesting as it was a reconnaissance through a portion of the Hill tracts which had never before been traversed by a European. The war party was traced to some of those "Chin" villages alluded to in this report as on the northern Lemroo of whom we know next to nothing, and to place in charge of which I ask for a young, and active European officer which I regret does not meet with the Commissioner's support, a police sergeant having been considered sufficient for the present to control, and supervise matters on the Lemroo.

The old feuds existing between the "Lemroo

41. The cause of this attempt by the Chins is attributed to the fact that they had heard that the

Chins" and the Mros on the Mee the cause of this attempt.

"Mros" inhabiting the Mee were meditating a retalitory raid as "Goung Pow" or revenge for the one committed on a Tubutary Chief by name "Nankun" by Lemroo "Chins" in December 1870, when 12 of their villagers were killed; and four taken captives.

2nd attempt at raiding within the district.

42. Immediately after the withdrawal of the detachment of Madras Native Infantry, from the Dalukme outpost, rumours reached Mr. Hannay that the Shandoos were again assuming a threatening attitude, and *two days* after the detachment had left, a formidable war party of their clan were seen by some villagers within ten miles of the Head quarters of the Hill Tracts namely "Palukwa." One of the villagers was shot through the shoulder, and the other would have been probably too, had not the Shandoos musket missed fire; the companions of the wounded man came in sharp to Palukwa, and the Assistant Superintendent Lieutenant Hotham, with a strong party of police was in pursuit, but the birds had flown across the frontier before the police could come up with them. The war party from their halting places and track is computed to have been above 200.

43. Besides the above 2 attempts other parties of raiders have made incursions though their bivouacks only have been seen; and *one* large party of Shandoos entered our territory at the unprecedentedly early time of November 1871, within a few miles of the Talukme outpost, as reported in my letter 4 A of the 4th November 1871. The activity of the Talukme police in following up the trail until it crossed the frontier averted what would otherwise in all probability have terminated in a raid, and later on in the season another body of the same clan appeared on the "Mee" which was strengthened by an additional police party from the Akyab district of 20 men under an European Inspector.

Of raids without the British frontier.

44. Of such raids there have been three or four brought to my notice, but the two heaviest ones

during the year only deserve comment. The first was committed by a clan of Shandoos before alluded to as "Bouk-kyees" about the month of December 1871 on a Non-tributary village, two days' journey from the frontier post of "Samee" in which ten "Walleins" were killed and 12 taken captives by the "Shandoos;" the other was committed by a clan of "Shandoos" called "Hapar" on a Non-tributary tribe, called "Koons" and in which 12 Koons were killed and 8 taken captives as detailed in my letter, Political No. 2 of 1872, dated 12th January. This occurred when formidable numbers of the Shandoos were menacing our frontier, and eleven days prior to the raid in our territory, described in para 34 of this report.

Political consequences of the disturbed state of Non-Tributaries.

45. The effect of these heavy raids accompanied by such wanton massacre outside of the British boundary will be that the weaker tribes will immigrate into our territory, where they are sensible of the efforts we are making to afford the hill men peace, and order; and it is only a question of a few years before we shall find that raids, and slavery will be strictly confined to the Shandoos; several Non-tributary Chiefs, including some on the north, and some on the Eastern Frontier have already signified to me their intention of leaving their present abodes, and seeking protection within our territory.

Recovery of captives during the year.

46. Of above 200 British subjects whom official reports estimate as having within the last eight years been killed or carried off as captives from the Hill tracts, fifteen have been recovered during the year, this number includes ten who had been taken off by Looshais from a village near the Talukme outpost in the raid noted in Para 20 of this report. When at Talukme in January last having written to the Commissioner in letter No. a 6 of the 15th of November for sanction to do so, I despatched Lahawk the head man of the raided village to the Civil officer accompanying the Looshai force as there appeared a favourable opportunity for his obtaining some of his long lost relatives, and he returned towards the

end of March with the above ten, all were females but one small boy who during his captivity had entirely forgotten his native language. Twenty four *still* remain in the hands of the "Looshais," and among them Lahawk's wife. A female named "We Tu" one of the captives of the 34 carried off by the Shandoos and Koons in 1870, alluded to in para 24, was also made over to the police at Dalukme in December last by the Non-tributary tribes of Anoos adjoining the Koons, while eleven had the previous year effected their escape when the Shandoos village in which they were in of the "Bouk-kyee" clan was attacked, and sacked by Looshais. The arrival of a Military detachment at Talukme at the time had very much to say to the restoration of this captive; and the Koons who had possession of several others were also so frightened on the arrival of troops that they would have, there is little doubt, restored to Government all the captives in their hands had they not most unfortunately learnt that coercion was not to be used.

47. Two captives, one a Chittagonean and one a "Chyoung-tha" woman taken several years ago by Shandoo raiders from the Chittagong side, and sold to tributary Toungmens in the vicinity of Talukme as slaves were also recovered during the year, and they have since been restored to their relatives in Chittagong. The next captive recovered during the year was a "Chin" woman who had been made a prisoner by the Mros of the Mee in raid, committed four years ago by them on the Lemroo "Chins" in which 15 were killed, and thirty made prisoners she had been sold to a Tributary Chief at the Head Quarters Station of Palukwa by "Mros" of the Mee, and had for some years been in a state of captivity; she was restored to her relatives.

48. The 15th and last captive (a child of about 5) recovered was also obtained from a Non-Tributary tribe adjoining the Koons, she had been kidnapped and her parents British subjects residing near the "Koladyne" police post murdered in June last,

where they are still, but the child as has been the case with all those recovered except the ten from the Looshais was restored without force being used. This murder will be described further on under its proper head.

No successful raid perpetrated during the year, neither a captive taken and retained.

49. From the above it will be gleaned that while no successful raid has been committed during the year 1871, neither has a single captive been obtained as a prisoner by the Non-Tributary tribes from among the population forming the Hill tracts.

Other type of slavery very prevalent in Hill Tracts.

50. Another form of slavery other than the result of raids also common among the hill men, namely, that of disposing of their children or relatives as security for money lent has been put down and discouraged with as strong a hand as circumstances admitted of. A procedure however is urgently called for which would protect hill men who have lent money "*bonâ fide*" to their neighbours, and which by their ancient customs in default of payment is cleared by the debtor (whose person under our law would become the property of the State) voluntarily performing a specific period of servitude to his creditor; and in lieu of which we have substituted nothing except the "modus operandi" of one Civil law which *savours to him* of injustice, namely, that a dishonest debtor should not probably both do him out of his money, but that he should have to pay also for his idle maintenance if he wishes redress; for the wants of the hill man are so few, and his worldly goods so limited consisting generally of the bamboo hut over his head, with its tenantry of pigs, and poultry underneath, that nothing really valuable, and liable to attachment as satisfaction of debt exists.

51. My views on this point are also borne out by Mr. St. John in para. 99 of his report for last year, and some half way system based partly on the "lex loci" and partly on our law might with advantage be adopted without I think it being deemed as trenching on the relics, of barbarism.

With the exception of the Shandoos and

52. Most of the Non-Tributary Chiefs with the exception of those of the Shandoos and Chins have

Chins most of the Non-Tributary Chiefs were met during the year.

been met by me during the year, and no opportunity has been lost of impressing on them the policy of Government that they should abstain from raiding, and annoying our subjects, and thereby enjoy our friendship, and the advantages of trade with us. The Koon Chief "Kah Pah" who since 1868 has declined to meet any of our officers was induced in February last to visit Talukme. He agreed in his interview with me that he would use his best endeavours both to return the Government the "Pun Wet" captives, and prevail on his tribe to desist from joining the Shandoos in their expeditions across our frontier, and from all that report says of this chief he possesses the influence if he has the wish to carry out these engagements.

1 C.—Domestic, Population and Revenue.

53. The total population for the past year of the district is computed at about 7,000 souls, but it is very inaccurate as the hill men evince a reluctance to note the real number of persons residing in their several villages.

54. The following table exhibits the population of males to females of the several Tributary tribes inhabiting the Hill tracts, as detailed in para. 6 of this report :—

Races.	Males.	Females.
European, ...	3	...
Chyoung-tha and Arakanese, ...	774	778
Koomies, ...	1,675	1,311
Mros, ...	956	735
Anoos, ...	15	13
Chins, ...	284	258
Chaw or Kookies, ...	...	...
Burmese, ...	10	13
Munipooreans, ...	48	20
Hindoos. ...	19	...
Mussalmen, ...	26	1
Total...	3,819	3,129

55. Almost all the population are agriculturists, their method of agriculture very similar to that pursued in other ports of Burma has been fully described in paras. 37, 38, 39, 40 of my predecessor's report for 1870, and calls for no particular notice, further than that viewing the excellent tobacco, and cotton that is at present grown, and prepared by the rough and simple process adopted by the hill man it would be very desirable to try and improve the culture of the same, so as to find for both a place in the European market, which now is not the case, from their being exported in too coarse and rough a state.

56. A good deal of the cotton is sent to Chittagong; and it admits of much improvement. I have written for a simple and cheap kind of "gin" to enable the cultivator to clean it properly, and am endeavouring to procure some foreign tobacco seed. Certainly if richness of soil, is the "*sine qua non*" for success in the growth of cotton and tobacco, it should answer well in these tracts where almost anything will thrive.

The price of cotton during the year ranged from 5*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* a basket of about (40 lbs.) forty lbs. in weight or half a maund, and tobacco averaged from 4£ 10*s.* to 5£ a maund or eighty pounds. Both are daily rising, and there is a large local demand for them; the trade affords large profits to the native merchant who either pays in cash or exchanges gongs, brass bowls, copper trinkets, and other merchandize for the same.

57. With more attention paid to the cleansing of the raw material it will doubtless find a ready sale in the home market, as an English firm in Akyab who sent a sample Home informed me that it was pronounced superior to the cotton received from other parts of Burma.

58. The whole amount of revenue derived from the Hill Tracts for this year, was only Rupees three thousand seven hundred and forty seven, and the highest item of tax levied is Rupees three a family,

which is paid by the Chyoung-tha and a few "Mros" and "Chins" who live near the plains. Quaymies pay only a rupee a family which is far lower than what they contributed to the Imperial coffers some years back when we afforded them but little protection, and then the country was comparative shut to traders for fear of violence. Not only is less paid by them under the increased cost of the administration afforded to them now, but what is, gives ground for some discontent as the incidence of the tax is based on a system which presses hard on some of the hill clans, and not on others, though both may be living within a few yards of each other, and which has been submitted to the Commissioner of Arakan with a view of its being amended.

	Collection of 1871-72.			Collection of 1871-72.		
Land Revenue ...	156	2	...	137	13	...
Toungya ...	580	...	...	565	...	...
Capitation Tax ...	1,329	...	...	1,244	...	...
Tribute ...	1,146	...	...	1,115	8	...
Abkaree ...	25	...	...	20	...	...
Timber duty ...	93	...	...	70	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	418	12	...	670	...	...
Total....	3,747	12	...	3,822	5	...
Decrease. ...				74	7	...

59. The items comprising the sum of revenue are shewn in the comparative statement below for the years 1870-71, 1871-72.

	Revenue Collection.		
1870-71	3,822	5	...
1871-72	3,747	14	...
Decrease... ...	74	7	...

The decrease in tax is because the newly defined boundaries exclude villages who used to pay tribute under the old regime but whom we could never protect, and as they did not volunteer payment it was not demanded; however when I visit the frontier posts the chiefs of such villages almost invariably attend to pay their respects.

60. One certain result of the above will be that within a few years these more distant tribes will come, and reside within our frontier line where they know that they will get some protection, and their vacated spots will be occupied by the Shandoos, thus the course of gradual retrogression towards the plains will continue until our administration will ultimately (and that before very long) embrace all the hill clans now living between our frontier and the southern Howloungs.

61. I can bear out the remarks made by Mr. St. John's in para. 76th of his report last year as to the dislike evinced by the hill people for direct taxation while the nature of the country, and trade peculiarly admits of an easy system of indirect, for all the trade between the hills, and the plains passes up and down by water, which is the only means as before remarked of communication.

Indirect taxation suited to these Tracts.

62. Indirect taxation could so effectually be introduced which at the same time it would fall on a class of society other than the hill man, namely the well to do traders from the plains who made large profits by buying up all the cotton, and tobacco produce of the hills, towards the costly administration of which they contribute nil, that I have, though the subject is a wide one, after much mature consideration ventured to bring it forward as a measure which the present state of these Tracts, and the small amount of revenue now obtained would especially warrant.

TRIBUNALS.

63. There were two Judicial officers in the district both exercising Civil and Criminal powers, viz. the Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent.

64. During the year treated of in this report the Office of the Superintendent was held from 1st April 1871 to June 6th 1871 by R. F. St. Andrew St. John, Esq., Assistant Commissioner 1st Grade of the Uncovenanted Service, lately 60th Rifles, and

from June 6th 1871 to March 31st 1872 by Captain W. Gwynne Hughes, M. S. Corps, Assistant Commissioner 1st and Officiating Deputy Commissioner of the 4th Grade in British Burma. That of Assistant Superintendent was held by an Arakanese named Oogazan.

65. The Superintendent's powers are analagous to those of a District Magistrate and Collector, and on the 27th July 1870 he was also with other District Magistrates invested with special powers under 445 of the Criminal Procedure Code, by which he could try all cases under the Indian Penal Code, but those punishable with death. He also exercises all the powers of a District Judge as defined in Act I of 1861.

66. The Assistant Superintendent in Criminal matters exercises the powers of a Magistrate of the 2nd class with power of a Court of the 5th Grade as defined in Act I of 1861.

67. The district is not divided into sub-divisions, it would be desirable were it so. The area which the Courts exercise jurisdiction is about 2,500 square miles.

Introduction of stamps advocated.

68. Stamps are not used in Civil cases, though I have advocated that in all suits in which natives (other than hill men) are litigants stamped paper should be filed. By making a general concession in favor of all, rich traders from the plains escape payment of there quota towards law and justice, while the Hill man by the adoption of the same would be further protected from extortionate and inequitable claims which Eurasians and natives with the free license of paper are such adepts at making.

69. It is with satisfaction I note that the Courts of these Tracts are as yet free that low class of pleaders who so often frequent the plains and who would soon contaminate and debase the unsophisticated child of the Hills.

70. To show the baneful influence of pleaders being admitted to the Hills, I may note that in the case of Government and Kahpan *Vs.* 8 others charged with murder, as noted in para 89 of this report, two of the defendants acquitted by the Sessions Court who had entertained an Eurasian pleader from Akyab had to sell their relatives as slaves to obtain the money to meet payment of their fees. The restoration of the latter to their relatives has been ordered; one boy was sold for Rupees 180, and the other a girl for Rupees 211.

71. The number of days devoted to judicial work was 285 days.

72. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and decided in the Civil side during the year 1871 as compared with the previous year.

		Instituted.	Decided on
1871...	...	...37	37
1870...	...	...27	27
	Increase...	10	10

73. All of the above suits were of a nature cognizable by a Court of Small Causes, and none of them exceeded Rupees 500 in value.

74. In all cases involving a point of custom or of usage, the same has been referred to arbitrators, and the order of the arbitrators explained in open Court to the litigants.

75. Execution was only necessary in one case, and that was by imprisonment.

76. The suggestion I have ventured to give as to the desirability of our introducing a few rules on Civil Law which would be more conformable with the usages and customs of the hill men is noted in para. 50 of this report, and requires no further remarks.

77. There were no appeal on the Civil side preferred to the district Magistrate from the Sub-Magistrate of the Hill Tracts, and only three on the Criminal.

78. The procedure of the Civil Code or Act VIII is followed, as far as is possible, in the disposal of all Civil cases, and the usages and customs of the people strictly observed, as long as the same are not inconsistent with morality or equity.

Criminal Justice.

79. The following statement shows the total number of cases disposed of during 1871 as compared with 1870.

	Cases disposed of.
1870...	...33
1871...	...24
Decrease...	... 9

80. The total number of offences reported during the year was 31, and the number brought to trial as compared with the previous year stands thus :—

	Offences reported.	No. of persons brought to trial.
1870	48	60
1871	31	46
Decrease....	17	14

81. The following table shows the result of the convictions of the persons brought to trial during the year 1871, as compared with the preceding year.

	Convicted.
1871	22
1870	40
Decrease...	18

82. Of Rupees 614 inflicted as fines in 1871, 474 was realized against 322-8 in 1870.

83. Save crime of a violent type the Hill tracts are exceptionably free from casual crime, and the industrious habits of the people, and their real love for manual labor is the chief cause of this happy state of things.

84. The one serious crime during the year was the murder of a Toung-mein and his wife near the Koladan police post and the kidnapping of his child who was recovered last October, as referred to in para. 48th of this report.

85. The murderers are now safely harboured by the Non-Tributary tribe of "Koons" whereas stated in para. 24 nearly every outlaw makes his escape, and becomes with his local knowledge of the situation and approach to villages within our frontier a very dangerous but useful ally to this predatory tribe.

86. The cause of this last murder accompanied by kidnapping was to make good money lost at gambling. Gambling the knowledge of which has been inparted to the hill men by Arakanese from the plains is a fertile source of crime in these tracts, and indeed of much of the misery, and slavery which in one form or another has until within the last few years official reports show prevailed throughout them.

87. On my going into the particulars of some of their Civil cases of debt I have found that the money has been simply borrowed for play, and more than one instance, I have known the debtor become the slave of his creditor because he could not repay the money thus borrowed. Fortunately a love for smoking opium has not accompanied the longing displayed by the hill men for gambling, and the use of intoxicating drugs is unknown as yet in these hills.

88. I applied to the Commissioner that the spirit of the gambling act might be made applicable to these Tracts but he considered that the measure would be a harsh and unjust one. The subject will therefore have to be otherwise dealt with.

89. The other event of importance connected with the Criminal administration of this district during the year was the trial of the murderers of Toung-men "Kapah;" the particulars of which quasi political murder were related in paras. 109, 121 and 122 of last year's report. Three of the murderers were committed to the Sessions Court and acquitted, while 5 were discharged by me, a result which as affecting the hill men, and their belief in our means and power to redress their wrongs was very unfortunate for the district. A lengthened detention of the prisoners in the Akyab jail without being brought to trial, and the opportunities thus afforded for tampering with the parties, together with the procedure of our law which deterred the witnesses for fear of "Goung-pow" or "Vendetta" from stating the simple truth, and which allowed of the defendants assisted by an Eurasian pleader to impugn the truth of their former admissions of guilt, and participation in the murder contributed to what there is little doubt was a failure of justice.

90. This termination of a very important case promised to give some trouble, and anxiety for the peace of the Hill Tracts at the time, but I think that the complications arising out of it have since been somewhat adjusted.

91. The same is however liable at any time to occur again, as the distance of Akyab fron the northern frontier, and the contingency of the Session's Judge being either elsewhere in his division or to engage to take up the case at the time and on the spot or other wise unable to come up to the Hill tracts as was the case last year must lead to detention, while to compel the attendence of hill men at Akyab is simply tantamount to inflicting penal

punishment on them, so great is their dread and prejudice against leaving their mountains for the plains.

92. The remedy for such an exceptional state of things is in my humble opinion to bestow on the Superintendent who can at present try all cases other than those punishable with death, situated as he is in a lawless district, where so often prompt, and decided action is everything, such power as has been conferred on the officers in charge of some of the Hill Tracts subordinate to the Government of Bengal, viz. the power of sentencing to death *subject* to the confirmation of the Judicial Commissioner in snch cases *only* as where hill men are arrested *flagrante delicto* in raids accompanied by murder or in murder on account of "Goung-pow" or "Vendetta."

93. Among a race whose only code is one which for ages has been carried out with rigid severity, namely the "*lex talionis*" of an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, I cannot without being guilty of dereliction of duty, the real welfare of the people, and indeed the future success of the administration dwell too strongly on the necessity of our adopting such a system and procedure as will calculate as far as legislation can do so to ensure strict justice, and redress to a race so peculiarly constituted.

94. My predecessor in para. 120 of his report for last year in remarking on the difficulties that the police have to contend with in the suppression of internal crime advocates similar rules to be enforced as have been found necessary in the disturbed district of Ireland, and adds "evidence can easily "be obtained if the rule which necessitates its be-"ing given in the presence of the defendent can be "suspended otherwise a witness is sure to be mur-"dured." There can be no question that all the above points to the conclusion that the subject is one which should be specially dealt with. In further support of what has been noted and to show violent crime remains unpunished in these Tracts I

may add that though the criminal calendar of the last 8 years of this portion of Arakan abounds in violent crime I am not aware that there has ever been a single hill man either hung or transported for an offence ; and this mainly because of the dreaded institution of " Vendetta."

POLICE.

95. By the order of the Chief Commissioner in letter No. 64-5, Political of the 2nd June 1871, to the Secretary to the Government of India, an increase of 122 police were sanctioned for the Hill tracts, and also an Assistant Superintendent, and the following table shows the distribution of this force throughout the district, while the locality of the parts is shown in the accompanying map.

STATION.	Inspector.	Head Constable.	1st Class Sergeant.	2nd Class Sergeant.	1st Class Constable.	2nd Class Constable.	3rd Class Constable.	Steersmen.	Boatmen.
Talukme	1	1	...	1	15	55	...	...	...
Palukwa for the Head Quarters of the Superintendent ...	...	...	1	...	15	15	20	...	...
Tsamee Chyoung	...	...	1	...	4	16	...	...	...
Koladan	...	...	...	1	1	2	7	...	...
Myinthet	...	...	...	1	1	2	12	...	...
Myouk-toung	...	...	...	1	1	2	12	...	...
Lemroo lower	...	...	1	...	4	16	...	...	...
Pengwa or Upper Lemroo ...	...	...	1	1	4	16	...	...	...
Lemroo river boat ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Kolodyne river boat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Total...	1	1	4	4	45	124	51	2	6

96. Ths control, and mangement of the force was also placed in the hands of the Superintendent of Hill tracts, who is *ex officio* Superientendent of Police.

97. The police of the hills at most of the stations have to preform duties appertaining to military rather than a Civil Constabulary, and hill men

are hardly suitable to such a duty but have performed with much credit and good service what the Chief Commissioner's scheme, contemplated they should, namely the work of scouts.

98. Onr brief of administration of the Hill Tracts necessitates that the hill men should be entertained in the police with caution, and that our real strength should consist of foreign material. This has been supplied, chiefly by "Munipooreans" and "Rajah Bunshies" both, but espicially the former answer well; Arakanese are a rule do not as they affect to dispise the hill men and are lazy and indolent, which the majority of the class from which the men are drafted are demoralized by opium.

99. The composition of the force will be shown by a glance at the table below :—

40	Munipooreans,
20	Rajah Bunshies,
56	Hill men (including Chyoung-thas,)
71	Arakanese and Burmese,
51	Other Natives of India.
Total...238	

100. This force on paper appears large, but viewing the extended frontier, the formidable war parties which it has deal with, and the monthly proportion of casualties, which occur chiefly from sickness in the discharge of work severer in its nature that I have ever foreseen in Burma, it is I am convinced from nine months experience on the spot of its working inadequate for an efficient protection of the district from the raids and hostile incursions of Non-Tributary tribes from the northern, and eastern Lemroo frontier.

101. The chief occupation of the police during the year has been the patrolling of those hills, through which Shandoo and other war parties de-

scend by for raiding and under head "Foreign" it has been endeavoured to show the result of their labor. As remarked this duty is an arduous one as the portion of country which requires constant patrolling is a vast, and uninhabited tract of dense jungle without a vestige of a road on the east bank of the Koladan river, and bounded on the north by the Koons, and Shandoos. Fear of these marauding tribes precludes the hill men from occupying this waste as the few villages they had there have within the last few years been all but one or two raided. The west bank is on the contrary comparatively speaking well populated, as the Shandoos will never cross water beyond their knees in depth, and when the river owing to the drought becomes from February to May very low formidable "*cheval de frise*" are placed across the shallow parts, and behind these again under cover of a small stone fortification sleep nightly the village guard armed perhaps with one or two muskets.

102. The average of sick in the force during the working season has been roughly computed at fully fifteen per cent, which necessarily seriously cripples its effectiveness.

103. With the proper medical aid for these Tracts which the Chief Commissioner has ordered matters will doubtless in this respect improve.

104. The climate however proverbially unhealthy for Europeans is still more so far Natives though those of a steady character, and not addicted to opium fare better.

105. The men of the force have performed the varied duties which have fallen to them in a very creditable manner, and doubtless will continue now that they are fairly settled down to their work to improve. They are armed with the long and short fusil or Brown Bess, but a few Enfield rifles entrusted to the best men would render the force still more effective.

106. The most important frontier being the northern one, and the key to our position being the outpost of Talukme, it will be always necessary to have the Assistant Superintendent there as much as possible, as beyond the post the frontier is not reached for about 18 miles by river, and between it and the post, there are several villages which throughout the dry weather stand in imminent danger of being raided.

107. To term Talukme the frontier post is really therefore a misnomer. The two principal posts of Palukwa and Talukme, which both command the river Koladyne and also the approach to the Shandoo country have been made very strong and surrounded with timber palisades, they are now in a position to resist any ordinary attack.

The hill men save amongst themselves are of an orderly character.

108. I may observe that notwithstanding there has been a very great increase of trade in the Hill Tracts during the year under review, and that a far larger number of trading boats than heretobefore have passed up, and drawn between the frontier, and the foot of the hills carrying often valuable merchandize, and large sums of money from the plains, with which to purchase hill produce, not a theft, robbery, or murder for plunder, has occurred which may be received as somewhat in proof of the efficiency of the police, and the general quiet state of the hill men, and their amenability (save amongst themselves) to control, and order.

109. From the table of the propotionate number of classes given in para. 99 it will be noted that the actual number of hill men at present enrolled in the force is 56; this number is for the present as many as I consider it politic to have, and will not differ in any great manner from the orders of the Supreme Government on the point as contained in the concluding portion of C. U. Aitchison, Esquire, C. S. I., letter No. 1562, Political to the Chief Commissioner British Burma, dated 2nd September 1870.

Public Works.

110. Nothing has been executed by the above department during the year in the Hill Tracts. As directed by the Chief Commissioner in para. 15 of his scheme for the future administration of these tracts plans have been submitted and were sanctioned in March last, for the erection of a Court House, Lock-up, and private house at the Head quarter of the Superintendent at Palukwa, and it is expected that nearly all will be completed by the end of the year. The difficulty lies in want of supervision and skilled labor in these tracts.

111. The advantages of Palukwa as the Head quarter of the district of the Hill Tracts from it central position are very great, and it has, and will be a part of the policy to hold out advantages to the tributary and Non-tributary Chiefs for resorting there by forming a depot for the supply of salt, and provisions which must answer if Government reserves to itself the control of the salt supply.

Magazine.

112. The "Magazine" which para. 9 of the above scheme also contemplated should be erected at Palukwa has been at a stand still owing to want of skilled labor in the hills. The Chief Commissioner has asked that the Department of Public Works should send up a person to superintend it; such a building is very necessary.

Other buildings.

113. Strong timber palisades were at the commencement of the year erected round the Talukme and Palukwa posts when threatened by attack and to meet the expense of which special application had to be made.

Agriculture, Produce and Labor.

Exports.

114. The principal products are tobacco, cotton sesamum seed, and rice, all but the last are exported inconsiderable quantities to Akyab, and the trade in them will there is every reason to believe increase yearly.

115. Rice has to be imported, as what is grown in the toungyas or "jhooms" does not nearly meet the demand. Salt chiefly from the "Kyouk Phyoo" district is likewise imported on a large scale. Imports.

116. The yield of tobacco, and cotton during the year has been remarkably good, and both have fetched an unprecedently high price which the hill men keenly appreciating is getting alive to the advantage of cultivating on a larger scale than before.

117. Unskilled labor per day is 6d. there are none of the artisan classes in the hills, hence no skilled labour, though for hard rough work I think that the hill man of Arakan would hold his own against any one in the world. The amount of fatigue, and physical strength that he possesses is astonishing, and all is done with such perfect good humour, and happiness that it is quite a pleasure to see a body of hill men engaged in a work which would in the plains be fittingly assigned to either elephants or buffaloes.

Health.

118. Longevity would appear to be the rule among the people, but the normal state of internecine warfare in which until within the last few years the different tribes of the Hill Tracts have lived in, has had doubtless much to say to the sparseness of the population.

119. Epidemics of cholera and small-pox occasionally visit the hills, and do much damage. This year there were few cases of the former, which there is every reason for believing, were caused by boats tainted with the disease from Akyab touching at some of the villages.

120. Skin and eye deseases which would appear to be generally prevalent among hill races are also very frequent, though not a single instance of goitre has come to my notice.

121. The most trying months in the year for the constitution would appear to be March, April and May, and the sudden changes in temparature remind one much of the description given of the climate in some parts of China where our troops are quartered. Meteorological observations for want of instruments have not been kept.

122. *Head Communication.* There is no Imperial postal communication between the head quarters of the Hill Tracts and Akyab, but an Akyab district dâk runs three times a month to the foot of the hills. The police who have other much more important duties at present carry on the mails. The necessity of a regular dâk to meet the Akyab one, and to carry on the mails to the head quarters was in October last brought to the notice of the Commissioner; a reply by ordinary dâk under the present system to correspondence from Akyab takes 20 days.

124. It would be a great matter for these Tracts in a political point of view were the telegraph line extended to Myouk-Toung at the foot of the hills. Communication on such urgent points as occasionally do, and must arise in a district, situated as this is, now most unsatisfactory and might be productive of serious trouble, so indeed is communication generally, there not being a vestige of a road in the district. A steam launch in weekly communication with Akyab, should the extension of the telegraph line be deemed too expensive a step, would be a valuable aid to the administration of the district, and supply a want which is keenly felt. It would be able all the year to run up to Palukwa, which is 130 miles from Akyab, and the Head quarters of the district.

125. Some improvement in the above respect I regard in the light of an absolute necessity, rather than view it as a question of whether it would pay, which for the present hardly can be expected.

Opening out roads and clearing paths in the Hills.

126. As to opening out roads, and improving internal communication the population is so sparse

and the means at our disposal so limited that as much has not been effected as I should have wished; but in the event of two or three elephants being sanctioned, I hope next year to be able to report a marked progress in this respect. A requisition on a village for hired labor or for men to assist in carrying police supplies when following raiders, is from the paucity of adults, always most reluctantly afforded.

Education.

127. There is one Budhist Kyoung at a village called Myouk-Toung at the foot of the hills, over which 3 priests preside with 30 scholars, who are put through the usual secular course that is pursued with so much good in the monastaries of Burma. No attempt has as yet been made to introduce education among the hill men, who know nothing beyond their hill language and a "patois" of their own, which they have learnt from the Arakanese. I have submitted to the Commissioner what I would propose on this point in a general memo: which I had the honor on being called upon of submitting with my letter No. 13, Political, of the 6th of February last, and which detailed in a general way the rules I would propose for the administration of these Tracts.

128. Many of the hill men would be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of learning to read, and if a foreign language is to be taught them I would certainly advocate English; natives from the plains affect to despise them, and they have little to gain by learning Arakanese, which is only a corruption of Burmese.

Medical and Dispensaries.

129. In February last a Native Hospital Assistant from India was despatched to the Hill tracts, and at present he is the only Medical Officer. He has been ill and pining to return, more or less, the whole of his short service and takes little interest in his duties.

130. A dispensary with an intelligent European or Eurasian Medical officer at Head Quarters would

doubtless exercise great influence over the hill men who from time to time come for medicine and advice, as there are no Native Doctors among them. A competent Medical officer stationed in the hills would also in a great measure render it unnecessary for officers when sick running down to Akyab to the detriment of the district.

131. I mention Eurasian or European, because either would have a better chance of standing the climate than natives from the plains, who are apt so soon to give in, and the first year or two are rendered more or less ineffective through sickness.

132. Sanction for the erection of a small dispensary at head quarters has been received, though at present there is no Medical officer, as the Hosptial Assistant has had to leave sick.

MISCELLANEOUS.

133. During the year of which this report treats I was enabled to visit the whole of the Hill tracts but the Lemroo, (and with the exception of twenty days my time from 1st of Septempber to 30th of April has been spent in the Hills.) The isolated position of this portion of the district and its distance from the northern frontier where events demanded my constant presence left me no time to see this interesting part of the hills.

134. The Assistant Superintendent of police as reported in para. 39 when following up some Chin raiders paid it a passing visit in January last.

135. Up to the end of March Extra Assistant Commissioner Oogazan was located there when by the order of the Commissioner he was withdrawn on account of his old age and good service, and I have as directed placed a sergeant in charge, an arrangement which I beg to express a hope for the good of the district is not a permanent one, as this important (though our own tribute paying subjects be few in it) portion of the Hill tracts is at present

our weakest point, and suffers much from want of effective European supervision. The only event of importance while he was in charge was the entry of the "Chin" raiders in the "Mee" noted in para. 39 without his knowing a word about it.

136. I regret to be unable to give such a good account of the Myouk-Toung bazaar as my predecessor in para. 148 of his report of last year did. When I took charge of the Hill Tracts in June 1871 though the bazaar had been in existence for two years, only Rs. 20 had during that time been received as stall rent, and on my arrival in the hills there were only two sellers in the building. Whereas is the case on this river free trade as far as the northern frontier admits of the hill men purchasing every thing they wish from the boats, alongside of their village, it can hardly be expected that a bazaar at the foot of the hills would be frequented to any great extent. Doubtless by checking free trade it would be freely resorted to, but such a policy within our boundary would in every way be a mistake *save* as regard *salt*, as it is this free trade from the plains and competition for hill produce which puts money into the pocket of the hill man, stimulates him to increased industry, and tends generally to keep him quiet.

137. An attempt, and with some promise of success has been made to establish the nucleus of a small bazaar at Talukme, which if continued in, will there is every reason for hoping, eventually succeed; though our main efforts must be concentrated in fostering one on a large scale at the Head quarters of the district, viz. Palukwa, as the Chief Commissioner's scheme contemplated, and to succeed in which and to bring the Superintendent on close terms of intimacy with Non-Tributaries it is very desirable that Government control the salt supply.

138. There being no recognized native territory dividing the Hill Tracts of Arakan from British, and there being no boundary pillar the orders of

Government No. 1758, dated 21st August 1871, on the subject would not appear to apply to this portion of British Burma.

Rewards for Service during the year.

139. During the year the Chief Commissioner was pleased to recognize the services of the police, aud friendly chiefs, who assisted in the affair with the "Shandoos" alluded in para. 34, by a present of a rifle to the head constable, and Rupees five hundred and fifty, with 12 muskets to the Hill Chiefs whose aid contributed to our success. Mr. Inspector Hannay has since received his promotion to an Officiating Assistant Superintendent of police

For past service.

140. For long and faithful past services, the Extra Assistant Commissioner Oogazan, received from the Government of India a gold chain or Tsalay, as a mark of their approval.

No. 2686 P, Political, dated 18th December 1871, of the *Gazette of India*.

142. The only important Legislative enactment during the year was the extension of Act 33, Chapter 3, of Victoria, by order, to the Hill Tracts.

143. A collection of the dresses, weapons, and ornaments of the several Hill races of north Arakan has been collected, with a view as requested by the Chief Commissioner of being sent to the Calcutta Museum. This collection will go a long way towards showing that a people able to produce such serviceable, and indeed in the case of several of the cloths, from home spun cotton, such well worked, and finished articles, are not so backward, and uncivilized a race as they are popularly supposed to be.

Operation of Looshai Expedition as affecting the Arakan Frontier.

144. The result of the operations against the Looshais as affecting this frontier as far as at *present* can be learnt promise to have a salutary influence on the Non-Tributary tribes, and offers a still more favorable prospect to an agent located in the proposed place where the Shandoos resort to, of doing some real good (vide para. 22); as before stated

during the Looshai expedition a company and a half of Madras Native Infantry were on field service at Talukme for the further protection of the frontier, and locating them there had a most beneficial effect in assisting to keep the Shandoos in check and preserving quite on the Arakan border.

145. Information, pretty correct on the whole, used to reach this frontier of the progress which the Chittagong column was making, though it came through so many sources as to at times render it difficult to discriminate how much to receive and what to reject.

146. Several of the unrecovered captives among the Looshais are reported still among the Shandoos, and had a small column co-operated up the Koladyne at the time, or had it been practicable for a portion of the Chittagong column to return *viâ* the Koladyne river, these Hill tracts would have been incalculably benefitted, numbers of our subjects at present in slavery with them recovered, and quietude on the part of the Shandoos for years to come secured; and on which last condition so vitally depends the future peace, and welfare of these hills.

147. From all that has been noted in this report, I think it may confidently be stated that the new measures connected with the Administration of this frontier, as detailed in the Chief Commissioner's letter No. 64-5 Political, dated June 2nd 1871 to the Government of India, which are now almost all carried out have the promise of being in every way successful. The great point established to the hill men is that we are determined to maintain a firm but considerate rule over them, and that by the retention of European officers in the hills throughout the year we mean to do our best to study their interests, and protect them from raids. I know that this current of ideas is fast seizing hold of them, and that they are commencing to reciprocate the same by really showing that they have some confidence in us which if once fully gained will allow of their being moulded into a useful, and very fine race whose

present state of civilization I was certainly not prepared to find in near so advanced a stage as it is; a stage which is a much more forward one than my experience of nearly a year and a half as Officiating Deputy Commissioner of the Toungoo district shows the wild Karen tribes of that portion of the province to be in. As regards their system of "Vendetta," and slavery they differ little from the wild Karens, though the former carry out theirs with an exacting severity not equalled I believe in the east. A slowly perceptible desire however on their part to seek redress for their wrongs, real or imaginary, at the hands of our officers, and to obtain the freedom of their relatives in slavery by regular procedure, furnishes the best proof that our rule is having some permanent hold on them, that they appreciate it and are gradually forsaking their time honored usages. Be true, firm, and mix freely with them, and they will be found a very practicable race; the suspicion, and diffidence which they now occasionally betray will before long be entirely overcome when British rule, and the disinterested motives of British officers come home to them. Their introduction to civilization in past years has been much against them and an alien rule by natives of the plains under little European supervision, and in every way inferior to them in such qualities, both moral, and physical, as have at all times wherever found, commanded the esteem and respect of Englishmen has only tended to show them the worse side of human character, and render them distrustful and impatient of control. Native Officials take no interest in the hill men beyond utilizing them for their own ends, and the feeling is mutual, inasmuch as the hill men altogether distrusts the plotting, and too wary native of the plain who I have seldom known to give other than a distorted picture when asked or questioned on subjects affecting their interests. This is however now being remedied by the late new measures and policy, which have obtained for these hills the close attention and supervision of European officers permanently stationed in them, and the more of whom there are the quicker will our task be completed of effectually reforming

the people from the few dark blots which now obstruct their progress, of impressing them with our manners, and converting them into highly useful members of the Government. Native Agency with its almost invariable attendants of trickery, deception, and official airs, from the plains, unless under close observation, only on the other hand renders our task the more difficult and widens the barrier which now separates us from a race who are naturally simple, and truthful, and comparatively free from vice other than that of a type which has in all ages been peculiar to a nationality or clan who have lived under no law but that of "might being right."

148. The domestic life, habits and customs of these wild tribes of Arakan have been so fully, and graphically described by others, that this must serve as my excuse for not going over such well trodden ground, and this report has had more for its object the attempt to show the actual state of our relations with them now that they are under our own immediate case, and the result of the measures, and policy lately introduced. The further resources of the Hill tracts, the desirability of ascertaining whether these magnificent forests cannot be formed into a source of wealth are points which force themselves to notice as worthy of close enquiry for the future, and which without reliable data it is useless wasting time in conjecturing on.

149. Our geographical knowledge regarding the Hill Tracts of Arakan as derived from the only survey map by O. Donel of (53 to 61) is imperfect and errors have been observed which are apt to misguide while some of the boundaries as lately laid down by Government are either imperfectly shown or else marked in the wrong places.

150. As a means towards the end of bringing us on closer terms of intimacy with a race who admit of so much improvement the desirability of officers stationed in the Hill Tracts acquiring a knowledge of the language sufficient to converse without the

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aid of an Interpreter is a subject which also deserves attention. For though the variety of tongues prevading the hills of Arakan is numerous nearly all the hill men but "Chins" and Shandoos understand "Quaymie" which is not difficult.

151. The policy which has shaped all the efforts made to carry on successfully the working of the new measures is that enunciated by the Government of India, together with that directed by the Chief Commissioner, and noted in his scheme before alluded to.

In letter No. 1562 P. from C. W. Aitchison, Esq., C. S. I. of the 2nd September 1870, Political Foreign Department to the Chief Commissioner of British Burma.

152. In conclusion, I would beg to bring to favorable consideration the names of Lieutenant Hotham, Assistant Superintendent of police, and of Mr. Hannay, whose energy and determination placed at times, as they have been in situations which required discrimination, and ready resource, and with many difficulties to surmount, for their assistance in the achievement of any success which may be thought to have attended our efforts to carry out the orders of Government as to the administration of these tracts for the year 1871-72, and I with pleasure note that it could not have been possible to place at the disposal of the Hill Tracts officers who take a greater interest in their work or in the people forming their charge. The clerks of the establishment of the Superintendent, more particularly, the Head clerk Shway Hmya, have given satisfaction.

W. G. HUGHES, CAPTAIN,

Superintendent of Hill Tribes,

Northern Arakan.

MYOUK-TOUNG,
The 15th June 1872.